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I hereby certify that this paper and every paper referred to therein as being enclosed is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 15, 2000 (Date of Deposit)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Michael L. MARIN and Ralph MARIN

Serial No: 09/504,732 Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: February 16, 2000

For: METHOD FOR ENDOLUMINALLY EXCLUDING AN
AORTIC ANEURYSM (As Amended)

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is Form PTO-1449, and a copy¹ of the documents listed thereon. This document contains

¹To the extent that a document is listed and no copy of same is attached, then such document is not at the present time available to the undersigned or is available in the file of a parent application. If a listed document is not in the English language and an English translation is readily available, such translation is also attached; if translation is not attached it is not readily available to the undersigned. If a foreign language patent document is cited, and an English language equivalent is known to the undersigned, then such equivalent patent is also cited on the attached form along with the corresponding foreign language patent and a connecting arrow indicated therebetween; if no such English language equivalent is cited, then none is known to the undersigned.

information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to allow the present application to issue as a patent.

This is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/838,126, filed April 15, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,039, 749, which is a division of Application Serial No. 08/537,630, filed October 2, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,695,517, which is a division of Application Serial No. 08/324,893, filed October 18, 1994 now U.S. Patent No. 5,507,769, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 196,278, filed February 10, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,443,477.

Applicants hereby make reference to the submission of copies of the patents listed on the attached PTO-1449 in the prior applications or to the citation of such patents in the prior applications by the Examiner in accordance with MPEP 609(2).

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that the document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing on Form PTO-1449. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

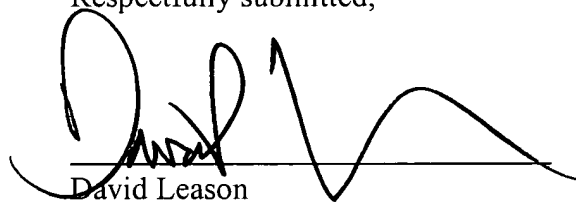
The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 insofar as an Examiner might consider any of the cited documents important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to

be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Date: May 15, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Leason', is written over a horizontal line.

David Leason

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